IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising a first vendor generating one or more files corresponding to an integrated circuit designed by the first vendor, the integrated circuit having one or more registers, wherein a content of the one or more files is structured for at least one of: (i) incorporation into a boot code sequence; or (ii) access by the boot code sequence during execution; and wherein the boot code sequence, when executed, ~~is configured to initialize~~ initializes the one or more registers of the integrated circuit responsive to the content ~~during execution~~ of the one or more files.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein a change to the one or more files is performed without requiring a recompile of the boot code sequence.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the first vendor transmitting the one or more files to a second vendor that develops the boot code sequence.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 3 wherein the second vendor is one of a plurality of vendors that develop the boot code sequence, and wherein the generating the one or more files comprises providing a plurality of sections in the one or more files, each of the plurality of sections corresponding to a different one of the plurality of vendors.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the first vendor transmitting the one or more files to a manufacturer of a system that includes the integrated circuit and the boot code sequence.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 5 further comprising storing the one or more files in a nonvolatile memory in the system.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6 further comprising accessing the one or more files during execution of the boot code sequence in the system.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the boot code sequence is divided into a plurality of phases, and wherein the one or more files are also divided according to the plurality of phases, and wherein generating the one or more files comprises including a first register of the one or more registers in a first phase of the plurality of phases in which the first register is to be initialized.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 8 wherein the plurality of phases comprises an early phase, a middle phase subsequent to the early phase, and a late phase subsequent to the middle phase.

10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the one or more files comprise at least one table of register identifiers and corresponding initialization values for the one or more registers.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10 wherein the one or more files further comprise code which, when executed, initializes at least one register of the one or more registers.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the one or more files comprise code which, when executed, initializes the one or more registers.

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising incorporating the code from the one or more files into the boot code sequence during a compile of the boot code sequence.

14. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein a database corresponding to the integrated circuit defines the one or more registers and initialization values for the one or more registers, and wherein generating one or more files comprises parsing the database

to extract indications of the one or more registers and the initialization values.

15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14 wherein the database further defines temporal ordering requirements for at least some of the one or more registers, and wherein the generating one or more files further comprises ordering the indications of the one or more registers and the initialization values according to the temporal ordering requirements.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15 wherein a first temporal ordering requirement corresponding to a first register of the one or more registers identifies a first phase of a plurality of phases of the boot code sequence in which the first register is to be initialized.

17. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15 wherein a first temporal ordering requirement corresponding to a first register of the one or more registers identifies a second register of the one or more registers and an order of initializing the first register and the second register.

18. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15 wherein the integrated circuit includes a plurality of blocks, each block having a subset of the one or more registers, and wherein a first temporal ordering requirement identifies a first block of the plurality of blocks, a second block of the plurality of blocks, and an order of initializing subsets of registers in the first block and the second block.

19. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14 wherein the database further includes at least one initialization indication of whether or not initialization is required, the parsing not extracting a corresponding indication of a first register in response to the initialization indication indicating that initialization of the first register is not required.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A computer accessible storage medium comprising a first one or more instructions which, when executed, generate one or more files corresponding to an integrated circuit, the integrated circuit having one or more registers, wherein a content of the one or more files is structured for at least one of: (i) incorporation into a boot code sequence; or (ii) access by the boot code sequence during execution; and wherein the boot code sequence, when executed, ~~is configured to initialize~~ initializes the one or more registers of the integrated circuit responsive to the content of the one or more files.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 further comprising a second one or more instructions which, when executed, transmit the one or more files to at least one of: (i) a vendor that develops the boot code sequence; or (ii) a manufacturer of a system that includes the integrated circuit and the boot code sequence.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 wherein the boot code sequence is divided into a plurality of phases, and wherein the one or more files are also divided according to the plurality of phases, and wherein the first one or more instructions comprise one or more instructions which, when executed, include a first register of the one or more registers in a first phase of the plurality of phases in which the first register is to be initialized.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 23 wherein the plurality of phases comprises an early phase, a middle phase subsequent to the early phase, and a late phase subsequent to the middle phase.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 wherein a plurality of vendors develop the boot code sequence, and wherein the first one or more instructions comprise one or more instructions which, when executed, provide a plurality of sections in the one or more files, each of the plurality of sections corresponding to a different one of the plurality of vendors.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 wherein the one or more files comprise at least one table of register identifiers and corresponding initialization values for the one or more registers.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 26 wherein the one or more files further comprise code which, when executed, initializes at least one register of the one or more registers.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 wherein the one or more files comprise code which, when executed, initializes the one or more registers.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 21 further comprising a database corresponding to the integrated circuit that defines the one or more registers and initialization values for the one or more registers, and wherein the first one or more instructions comprise a third one or more instructions which, when executed, parse the database to extract indications of the one or more registers and the initialization values.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 29 wherein the database further defines temporal ordering requirements for at least some of the one or more registers, and wherein the first one or more instructions further comprise a third one or more instructions which, when executed, order the indications of the one or more registers and the initialization values according to the temporal ordering requirements.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 30 wherein a first temporal ordering requirement corresponding to a first register of the one or more registers identifies a first phase of a plurality of phases of the boot code sequence in which the first register is to be initialized.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 30 wherein a first temporal ordering requirement corresponding to a first register of the one or more registers identifies a second register of the one or more registers and an order of initializing the first register and the second register.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 30 wherein the integrated circuit includes a plurality of blocks, each block having a subset of the one or more registers, and wherein a first temporal ordering requirement identifies a first block of the plurality of blocks, a second block of the plurality of blocks, and an order of initializing subsets of registers in the first block and the second block.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible storage medium as recited in claim 29 wherein the database further includes at least one initialization indication of whether or not initialization is required, and wherein the third one or more instructions, when executed, do not extract a corresponding indication of a first register in response to the initialization indication indicating that initialization of the first register is not required.

35. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, from a first vendor, one or more files corresponding to an integrated circuit designed by the first vendor, the integrated circuit having one or more registers, wherein a content of the one or more files is structured for at least one of: (i) incorporation into a boot code sequence; or (ii) access by the boot code sequence during execution; ~~and wherein the boot code sequence is configured to initialize the one or more registers responsive to the content; and~~

incorporating the content of the one or more files into the boot code sequence; and

executing the boot code sequence to initialize the one or more registers of the

integrated circuit responsive to the content of the one or more files.

36-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 wherein the receiving is performed by a second vendor that develops the boot code sequence.

39. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 38 wherein the second vendor is one of a plurality of vendors that develop the boot code sequence, and wherein the one or more files comprise a plurality of sections, each of the plurality of sections corresponding to a different one of the plurality of vendors.

40. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 wherein the receiving is performed by a manufacturer of a system that includes the boot code sequence and the integrated circuit.

41. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 40 further comprising storing the one or more files in a nonvolatile memory in the system.

42. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 41 further comprising accessing the one or more files during execution of the boot code sequence in the system.

43. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 wherein the one or more files comprise at least one table of register identifiers and corresponding initialization values for the one or more registers.

44. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 43 wherein the one or more files further comprise code which, when executed, initializes at least one register of the one or more registers.

45. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 35 wherein the one or more

files comprise code which, when executed, initializes the one or more registers.